

Application No.: 10/630,518**4****Docket No.: 532792001100****REMARKS**

Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 8 and 10 have been amended. Claims 1-15 are currently pending.

The Examiner requires restriction to Group I (claims 1-7), Group II (claims 8-14) or Group III (claim 15). The restriction requirement is respectfully traversed. It is respectfully submitted that the claims have been subdivided into an inappropriate number of groups. Applicant respectfully asserts that it would not be an undue burden to search all of the pending claims at one time.

Applicant elects Group II, claims 8-14, drawn to a method of preventing organ loss in a plant comprising mutating the ARF GAP domain of a gene in a plant, with traverse, for further prosecution.

Applicant expressly reserves the right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file one or more continuation or divisional applications directed to the nonelected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application.

Applicants request examination of the elected subject matter on the merits.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for

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any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing (532792001100). However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: August 29, 2005**Respectfully submitted,**

By Michael R. Ward

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